WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned funds for control of floods in North Bihar under the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Eighth Plan has not been finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

Subarnarekha Multi-Purpose Project Phase II

2298. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the construction of the Subarnarekha Multipurpose Project Phase II of Bihar;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The Government of Bihar had submitted a revised identification report on Subarnarekha Multi-purpose Project Phase-II comprising balance of work on the project accepted in 1982 and number of modernisation, new irrigation and hydro-electric schemes as other components in September, 1988 estimated to cost Rs. 858.6 crores to Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. The scheme was examined and the State Government was requested in March, 1989 to either delete the other components from the scope of the Subarnarekha Multi-purpose Project Phase-II or secure clearance quickly form Technical Advisory Committee.

(b) An expenditure of Rs. 464.16 crores has been incurred upto March, 1990 on Subarnarekha Multi-purpose Project. The anticipated expenditure during the year 1990-91 is Rs. 76.31 crores. The Working Group of Planning Commission has recommended Rs. 100 crores outlay for the year 1991-92.

(c) As per Government of Bihar identification report on Subarnarekha Project Phase-II of September, 1988, the project is scheduled to be completed by 1997-98 with the base year 1989-90.

[*English*]

High Yielding Variety Seeds

2299. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of farmers are not being supplied adequate quantity of High Yielding Variety Seeds:

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to ensure timely and adequate supply of high yielding variety seeds to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Production and distribution of seeds including High Yielding Variety Seeds is primarily the responsibility of the State Government which undertakes this job through its institutions like State Government Seed Farms, State Seed Corporation, Apex Cooperative Institutions, etc. Their efforts are supplemented by the National Seed Producing Agencies like National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corpo-

ration of India through their own infrastructure. So far as efforts by the Government of India are concerned, it organises Zonal Seed Conferences prior to each sowing season i.e. Kharif and Rabi. The requirement for Kharif, 1991 and its availability was reviewed with the State Governments and it was observed that against the requirement of 18.92 lakh qts. of high yielding variety seeds, 19.02 lakhs qts. was available.

(c) In order to assist the State Governments for production and distribution of seeds, the Government of India also supplements their efforts through National Seed Producing Agencies and Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

[*Translation*]

Soil Conservation in Bihar

2300. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally sponsored soil conservation schemes being implemented in Bihar:

(b) the funds allocated for those schemes during 1990-91; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check soil erosion in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Soil Conservation Schemes implemented in Bihar are (i) Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP) and (ii) Integrated Watershed Management in the catchment areas of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).

(b) Rs. 670 lakhs have been allocated during 1990-91 to Bihar for these two schemes together.

(c) The steps taken by Government to check soil erosion in Bihar include mechanical and biological measures according to requirements of the terrain.

[*English*]

Projects to Control Floods and Erosion in Assam

2301. SHRI NURUL ISLAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects for control of erosion and floods in Assam are pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which those are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) There are three projects and they have been examined. One pertaining to protection of Mukalmua Howlighat Area (cost Rs. 17.83 crores) is to be considered for technical approval and the other two pertaining to protection of Nagaghooli Maijan Area (cost Rs. 17.60 crores) and Raising and Strengthening of Gabru Embankment (cost Rs. 3.91 crores) will be considered after the required modifications are carried out.

Publication of Telephone Directories

2302. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for publication of Telephone Directories from private sources;

(b) the terms and conditions of agreement between the Government and the private concern; and

(c) the profit earned or loss suffered due to privatisation of the publication of Telephone Directories?